

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-10 AID-05

SAB-01 /093 W

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P R 171701Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2181

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 4188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO SPAIN JUNE 13-15

REF: A. MADRID 4122 (NOTAL)

B. CAIRO 5972

SUMMARY: EGYPTIAN FONMIN FAHMY TOLD GOS THAT EGYPT WAS PREPARED USE GOOD OFFICES TO HELP RESOLVE SAHARAN ISSUE AND THAT IT WANTED TO BROADEN BILATERAL RELATIONS ON BASIS OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL AGREEMENT SIGNED JUNE 13. FONMIN CORTINA REITERATED GOS POSITION ON SAHARA AND SUPPORT FOR ARAB POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST, AND REAFFIRMED DESIRE FOR MIDDLE EAST ISSUE ALSO DISCUSSED. FAHMY REPORTED AS INTENSIFICATION OF BILATERAL TIES. FAHMY REPORTED AS CONFIDENTIAL

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TELLING CORRESPONDENT SPAIN WOULD NOT BE ABLE APPROVE U.S.

USE OF BASES TO SUPPLY ISRAEL IN CASE OF ANOTHER WAR.
FAHMY HELD TALKS WITH FRANCO, PRINCE JUAN CARLOS, AND PREMIER
ARIAS, IN ADDITION TO CORTINA. END SUMMARY

1. EGYPTIAN FONMIN FAHMY VISITED MADRID, JUNE 13-15
FOLLOWING VISIT TO LONDON. IN INTERVIEW WITH SPANISH
JOURNALIST FROM "LA VANGUARDIA" (INDEPENDENT) ON LONDON,
JUNE 12, FAHMY SAID THAT HE HAD OVER 20 INVITATIONS TO
VISIT FOREIGN COUNTRIES BUT HAD ACCEPTED GOS INVITATION
TO UNDERScore IMPORTANCE TO GOE OF RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.
ASKED ABOUT SAHARA, FAHMY SAID "GOS' DECISION NOT TO
PROLONG ITS STAY IN THE TERRITORY AND, IF NECESSARY, TO
HASTEN TRANSFER OR POWER AND GET OUT OF SAHARA HAS GREATLY
FACILITATED THINGS." FAHMY TOLD CORRESPONDENT THAT "IT
WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR SPAIN TO APPROVE USE OF BASES BY
U.S. AIR FORCE TO RE-SUPPLY ISRAEL IN CASE OF ANOTHER WAR
BECAUSE OF SPAIN'S FIRM AND DECISIVE POLICY OF SUPPORTING
ARAB CAUSE ABOVE ALL ELSE."

2. MFA DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS, WHO ATTENDED
MEETINGS WITH FRANCO, PREMIER ARIAS, PRINCE JUAN CARLOS,
AND FONMIN CORTINA, TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 16 THAT SAHARA ISSUE
WAS NOT PRINCIPAL SUBJECT DISCUSSED ALTHOUGH IT WAS
BROUGHT UP AT EACH MEETING. ON ISSUE OF MIDDLE EAST
CONFLICT, FAHMY TOLD SPANIARDS THAT GOE WANTED EUROPEANS
TO PLAY LARGER ROLE IN RESUMPTION OF GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS,
BECAUSE PARTICIPATION OF UK AND FRANCE, AS UN SECURITY COUNCIL
MEMBERS, WOULD INJECT THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH MIDDLE EASTERN
AFFAIRS AND HELP OFFSET DOMINANT WEIGHT OF U.S. AND USSR.
ACCORDING TO FAHMY, SOVIETS WERE OCCUPIED WITH CSCE
NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH THEY WANTED TO TERMINATE BEFORE
RESUMPTION OF GENEVA TALKS TO TERMINATE BEFORE
RESUMPTION OF GENEVA TALKS ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUE. THERE
WAS ALSO AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, ON
WHICH GOS GATHERED FROM FAHMY THAT ARABS WERE MORE INTERESTED
IN POLITICAL ASPECTS AS OPPOSED TO EC PREOCCUPATION WITH
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

3. RE SAHARA QUESTION, MFA OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF THAT
FAHMY OFFERED GOOD OFFICES TO EGYPT TO ASSIST IN REACHING
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AMICABLE SOLUTION USING ITS INFLUENCE WITH ARAB LEAGUE AND
WITH PRINCIPAL INTERESTED PARTIES. HE SAID GOS WAS GRATIFIED
WITH GOE ATTITUDE WHICH, OWING TO "MODERATION" OF CURRENT
EGYPTIAN POLICY, COULD ONLY BE HELPFUL AT PRESENT JUNCTURE
IN SAHARAN ISSUE.

4. FAHMY AND CORTINA SIGNED JUNE 13 AGREEMENT ON
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COLLABORATION WHICH HAD BEEN

NEGOTIATED IN CAIRO IN FEBRUARY DURING VISIT BY MFA DIRGEN FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION, LARROQUE. AGREEMENT DESIGNED AS FRAMEWORK FOR FUTURE PROJECT AGREEMENTS, WITH ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL DEFINING JURIDICAL STATUS OF TECHNICIANS AND EXPERTS TO BE EXCHANGED.

5. IN AFTER DINNER SPEECH JUNE 14 CORTINA SAID GOS WANTED DECOLONIZATION OF SAHARA TO BE CARRIED OUT UNDER UN AUSPICES; ARAB LEAGUE, BECAUSE OF SAHARA'S ARAB CHARACTER AND TRADITIONAL TIES OF SPAIN WITH ARAB WORLD, HAD RESPONSIBILITY IN FACILITATING SOLUTION. SPAIN, CORTINA SAID, PLACED TIES WITH ARAB WORLD ABOVE ANY ISSUE WHICH MIGHT ARISE WITH SAHARAN PROBLEM. ARAB LEAGUE COULD CONTRIBUTE TO PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND OBLVIATE POSSIBLE GOS DECISION TO "PUT AN END PRECIPITOUSLY AND UNILATERALLY TO ITS PRESENCE IN TERRITORY", WITH ITS CONSEQUENCES FOR STABILITY OF MAGHREB.

6. IN REPLY, FAHMY PROMISED THAT GOE WOULD DO UTMOST TO HEAD OFF SERIOUS PROBLEMS OVER SAHARAN ISSUE. ON MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT, FAHMY SAID GOE WAS RESOLVED TO REACH PEACEFUL SOLUTION, BUT, IF THIS WERE NOT POSSIBLE, TO LIBERATE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

7. CORTINA CCEPTED FAHMY'S INVITATION TO VISIT CAIRO. ACCORDING TO MFA, TWO FONMINS AGREED NOT TO ISSUE FINAL COMMUNIQUE; DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS WAS PERPLEXED BY PRESS REPORTS OF ALLEGED COMMUNIQUE (REF B).

8. COMMENT: SINCE START OF VISIT BY UN COMMITTEE OF 24 TO SAHARA AND INTERESTED COUNTRIES IN EARLY MAY GOS HAS TAKEN SEVERAL INITIATIVES TO KEEP ATTENTION FOCUSED ON INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF SAHARAN ISSUE AND ALSO TO INVOLVE OTHERS IN SUPPORT OF ITS POSITION, E.G., MAY 23 LETTER TO UNSYG
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WALDHEIM, UNSYG VISIT JUNE 11-13, AND FAHMY VISIT. WE NOTE THAT CORTINA HIMSELF TOLD EGYPTIAN PRESS REP THAT GOS WOULD NOT ALLOW USE OF BASES ON ITS SOIL AGAINST ARABS (REF B) PARALLELING FAHMY STATEMENT TO SPANISH PRESS REP ON SAME POINT.
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